



Neuschwanstein Castle

### Neuschwanstein Castle

Neuschwanstein was commenced by Ludwig II in 1868 high above his father's Hohenschwangau Castle in the area he knew so well, and was never actually completed. It was his monument to the culture and kingship of the Middle Ages, which he venerated and wanted to recreate.

Designed in a medieval style but equipped with the latest technology of the day, it is one of the most famous buildings in the world and a central symbol of German idealism.

The interior features picture cycles from old Norse and chivalric legends. The Singers' Hall is based on two halls in the Wartburg, and the Throne Hall, which celebrates power and authority, was inspired by Byzantine and early Christian churches.

Throne Hall in Neuschwanstein Castle



Baroque Emperor hall in Augustine Monastery

### Augustine Monastery Herrenchiemsee (Old Palace)

Bavaria's oldest monastery was founded in the second quarter of the 7th century. From 1215 until secularization in 1803 it was also a bishop's seat with a cathedral.

The Baroque splendour of the former monastery has been preserved in the Library Hall, Imperial Hall and Garden Room. When King Ludwig II acquired the Herreninsel in 1873, he had living quarters created according to his own specifications in the monastery building. This was where he stayed when he was inspecting the work on the New Palace. The former monastery became the so-called Old Palace where the Constitution Convention was held in 1948 to draw up the constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. Also in the Old Palace are two galleries showing the works of Chiemsee artists and of Julius Exter.

'Children Fishing on the Chiemsee', F. W. Pfeiffer (1822–1891)



Herrenchiemsee Palace (New Palace)

### Royal Palace of Herrenchiemsee (New Palace)

This monument to Absolutism which is far more magnificently furnished than the palace of Versailles on which it was modelled, was begun in 1878. The State Bedchamber in the Large Apartment is the most expensive room of the 19th century. The porcelain in the Small Apartment is the largest single order ever received by the Meissen manufactory and the richness of the embroidery on the textiles is beyond comparison. In this palace Ludwig II conjured up kingship with all the means at his disposal. The building remained incomplete, as did also the park around it, which was modelled on Versailles with its splendid fountains and intended to cover most of the island; today the gardens are surrounded by a natural area with important biotopes. In the palace, the comprehensive Ludwig II Museum documents the life and work of the man described by Paul Verlaine in 1886 as the 'only true king of the 19th century'.

The State Bedchamber in Herrenchiemsee Palace



The rose garden on the east side of the Casino

### Rose Island in Lake Starnberg

Ludwig II loved this small island with the Pompeian Casino built by his father. When he was young he invited special guests here such as the Russian Czarina Maria Alexandrovna. Sometimes Empress Elisabeth of Austria, with whom he had a great deal in common, also came to the island. The rose garden has been reconstructed with many fragrant old varieties of rose. The Casino with its fine, comprehensively restored interior is open to the public and a small exhibition documenting the surprisingly long history of the island is on display in the gardeners' house. The remains of prehistoric pile dwellings on the bottom of Lake Starnberg by Rose Island have been included on UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage list. From here the Votive Chapel on the east shore of the lake can be seen. It was built high above the place where Ludwig II died on 13 June 1886, not far from a further royal property, Berg Palace.

The Rose Island and the shallows around it



# King Ludwig II and his castles





*I wish you a fascinating visit to the castles of King Ludwig III!*

**Albert Füracker, MdL**

Bavarian Minister of State of Finance and Regional Identity



*The new dress coach of King Ludwig II in the Marstallmuseum*



*Main façade of Linderhof Palace*

## Nymphenburg Palace in Munich

The Baroque palace together with its pavilions, the Amalienburg, the Badenburger, the Pagodenburg and the Magdalenenklause, is a cultural masterpiece of international standing. It was here, in this summer residence of the Bavarian electors and kings, that Ludwig II was born on 25 August 1845, St Ludwig's day. He was christened the very next day in the famous Great Hall of the main palace. The authentically preserved room in which Ludwig II was born can be viewed in the Queens' Apartment. The portrait of his mother, Crown Princess Marie, belongs to King Ludwig I's famous 'Gallery of Beauties' in the palace. The Amalienburg was one of the king's sources of inspiration.

## Marstallmuseum in Nymphenburg Palace

The rich collection of Wittelsbach gala coaches and sleighs spans over three centuries, with the magnificent state coaches of King Ludwig II dating from around

*Nymphenburg Palace*



1880 as some of the highlights of the exhibition. The king used them largely for night-time trips in the mountains, where they made a great impression on the few people who saw them. The royal crown on the State Sleigh was already lit by a light bulb and the carriages had leaf springs – like the cars a few years later. The combination of historic forms with modern technology is typical of this period. On display in Ludwig II's tack room are magnificent harnesses and riding and driving accoutrements. The textile decorations such as tassels and rosettes are particularly precious and very well preserved.

## Linderhof Palace

His Royal Villa was the only one of his buildings that Ludwig II completed (1878). This palace with its Baroque façade was influenced by French architecture, and the interior is decorated with Rococo motifs from the time of Louis XV. Ludwig also incorporated many aspects of the south German Rococo style of his own ancestors, which he had already encountered as a child in Nymphenburg, and in Linderhof created rooms of astounding opulence. The park, one of the best in existence from the

*The Moorish Kiosk in Linderhof*



19th century, combines motifs from Baroque garden design with magnificent water parterres and an English landscape garden. In the grounds are fascinating buildings such as the Moroccan House, the Moorish Kiosk and the Venus Grotto, a huge artificial grotto based on Richard Wagner's description of the set for Act I of his opera Tannhäuser. Two further stage sets from Wagner's music dramas are Hunding's Hut (Act I of Die Walküre) and the Hermitage of Gurnemanz (Act III of Parsifal). Linderhof was Ludwig II's favorite residence.

## King's House on Schachen

This small palace built for Ludwig II is magnificently located at an altitude of over 1800 m against the backdrop of the Wetterstein massif in the Alps. The wooden building has a rather modest exterior and simple rooms on the ground floor, but the hall occupying the first floor is furnished with oriental splendour. The king sought the seclusion of the mountains to celebrate his birthday and his name day in the lavishly decorated Turkish Hall furnished with divans and a fountain. The King's House can only be reached on foot, either from Elmau, Garmisch-Partenkirchen or Mittenwald.

*King's House on Schachen*



## INFORMATION

All tickets are available on site; we also offer some tickets online: [www.schloesser.bayern.de](http://www.schloesser.bayern.de)

## NYMPHENBURG PALACE AND MARSTALLMUSEUM

D-80638 Munich · Tel. +49 89 17908-0  
[www.schloss-nymphenburg.de](http://www.schloss-nymphenburg.de)

### OPENING TIMES

April–15 October: 9am–6pm  
16 October–March: 10am–4pm

## LINDERHOF PALACE AND KING'S HOUSE ON SCHACHEN

D-82488 Ettal · Tel. +49 8822 9203-0 · [www.linderhof.de](http://www.linderhof.de)

### OPENING TIMES OF LINDERHOF PALACE

April–15 October: 9am–6pm  
16 October–March: 10am–4.30pm

Due to restoration work the **Venus Grotto** is **closed** until further notice.

### OPENING TIMES OF THE KING'S HOUSE ON SCHACHEN

From the beginning of June to the beginning of October, depending on the weather; Guided tours at 11am, 1, 2 and 3pm. Additional tours can be arranged on request.

## NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE

D-87645 Schwangau · Tel. +49 8362 93988-0  
[www.neuschwanstein.de](http://www.neuschwanstein.de)

### TICKET CENTER HOHENSCHWANGAU

Alpseestr. 12 · D-87645 Schwangau  
Tel. +49 8362 93083-0 · [www.hohenschwangau.de](http://www.hohenschwangau.de)

### OPENING TIMES OF THE TICKET CENTER

April–15 October: 7.30am–5pm  
16 October–March: 8.30am–3pm  
Tickets for Neuschwanstein Castle are available online and on premise at the Ticket Center (limited capacities).

## HERRENCHIEMSEE PALACE

D-83209 Herrenchiemsee · Tel. +49 8051 6887-900  
[info.herrenchiemsee@bsv.bayern.de](mailto:info.herrenchiemsee@bsv.bayern.de) · [www.herrenchiemsee.de](http://www.herrenchiemsee.de)

### OPENING TIMES OF THE ROYAL PALACE OF HERRENCHIEMSEE

1 April–24 October: 9am–6pm  
25 October–31 March: 10am–4.45pm  
Guided tours only

### OPENING TIMES OF THE KING LUDWIG II MUSEUM AND THE AUGUSTINIAN MONASTERY WITH ART GALLERIES AND CONSTITUTION MUSEUM

1 April–24 October: 9am–6pm  
25 October–31 March: 10am–4.45pm

### OPENING TIMES FORMER MONASTERY CHURCH (SO-CALLED ISLAND CATHEDRAL)

1 April–24 October: Saturday, Sunday and on public holidays  
Guided tours only · Guided tours (in German only) at 11am and 2pm · 25 October–31 March: closed

Chiemsee boat service: summer/winter timetable at [www.chiemsee-schiffahrt.de](http://www.chiemsee-schiffahrt.de)

**The last admission is one hour before closing time.**

## ROSE ISLAND, LAKE STARNBERG

D-82340 Feldafing · Tel. +49 8157 924162

### OPENING TIMES OF THE CASINO


May–15 October: 12.15pm–5.30pm · closed Mondays  
16 October–April: closed  
A visit is only possible as part of a guided tour.

### OPENING TIMES OF THE MUSEUM

May–15 October: 12pm–6pm · closed Mondays  
16 October–April: closed

Bayerische Schloßerverwaltung/Außenstelle Starnberger See  
Nepomukweg 4 · D-82319 Starnberg  
Tel. +49 8151 550730-0

**All castles are closed on 1 January, Shrove Tuesday (except Neuschwanstein), 24, 25 and 31 December.**

 Bayerische Verwaltung der staatlichen Schlösser, Gärten und Seen  
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[#schloesserbayern](https://www.instagram.com/schloesserbayern) · [schloesserblog.bayern.de](https://www.instagram.com/schloesserblog.bayern.de)

